

CLAIMS

1. An ergonomic backpack comprising:

a backpack body, and

a plurality of shoulder support members, each shoulder support member

5 having a distal end and a proximal end, each shoulder support member proximal end connected to the backpack body at a first transition region between a top region of the backpack body and an outer region of the backpack body.

2. The backpack of claim 1 additionally comprising at least one side support
10 member disposed adjacent a lateral side region of the backpack body and having a proximal end connected to the backpack body at a second transition region between the outer region and the lateral side region and a distal end connected to one of the shoulder support members.

3. The backpack of claim 1 wherein the backpack body comprises a single,
15 seamless, continuous member.

4. The backpack of claim 1 wherein the backpack body comprises Nylon.

20 5. The backpack of claim 1 wherein the backpack body comprises a fineness of between about 500 denier and about 1050 denier.

6. The backpack of claim 1 additionally comprising a yoke disposed along the backpack body top region and connected to each shoulder support member.

5 7. The backpack of claim 1 wherein a bottom region of the backpack body has a stiffness higher than a stiffness of the rest of the backpack body.

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8. An ergonomic backpack comprising:

a backpack body,

a plurality of shoulder support members, each shoulder support member having a distal end and a proximal end, each shoulder support member proximal end connected to the backpack body at a first transition region between a top region of the backpack body and an outer region of the backpack body, and

a hip belt attached to the backpack body.

9. The backpack of claim 8 wherein the hip belt comprises a first hip belt piece and a second hip belt piece, each of said first and second hip belt pieces having a distal end and a proximal end,

wherein the first hip belt piece proximal end is attached to a first lateral side region of the backpack body, the second hip belt piece proximal end is attached to a second lateral side region of the backpack body, and each of the first and second hip belt piece distal ends is configured to be releasably connectable to each other.

10. The backpack of claim 8 additionally comprising two side support members, each disposed adjacent the first and second lateral side regions, respectively, and wherein each side support member has a proximal end connected to the backpack body at a second transition region between the outer region and the lateral side region and a distal end connected to one of the shoulder support members.

11. The backpack of claim 8 wherein the hip belt is adjustable.

5 12. The backpack of claim 8 wherein the backpack body comprises a single, seamless, continuous member.

13. The backpack of claim 8 wherein the backpack body comprises Nylon.

10 14. The backpack of claim 8 additionally comprising a yoke disposed along the backpack body top region and connected to each shoulder support member.

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15. An ergonomic backpack comprising:

a backpack body comprising a plurality of straps, and

a plurality of shoulder support members, each shoulder support member

having a distal end and a proximal end, the shoulder support member proximal end

connected to the backpack body at a first transition region between a top region of the
backpack body and an outer region of the backpack body.

16. The backpack of claim 15 additionally comprising a hip belt attached to
the backpack body at one or more of said straps.

17. The backpack of claim 15 additionally comprising a yoke disposed on the
backpack body along one of said straps.

18. The backpack of claim 15 additionally comprising two side support
members, each disposed adjacent the first and second lateral side regions,
respectively, and wherein each side support member has a proximal end connected to
the backpack body at a second transition region between the outer region and the
lateral side region and a distal end connected to one of the shoulder support members.

19. The backpack of claim 15 wherein the plurality of straps comprises four or
more straps, and wherein the first two of said straps are parallel to one another and

wherein the other two of said straps are (a) parallel to one another and (b) perpendicular to the first two of said straps.

- 5 20. The backpack of claim 19 wherein each of said first two straps and second two straps are spaced apart from each other to define an aperture through which the interior of the backpack body is accessible.

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